

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

Claim 16. (previously presented): An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 17. (canceled)

Claim 18. (currently amended): An isolated polypeptide having the amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 19. (previously presented): An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 2 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 20. (previously presented). An isolated polypeptide having an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 21-1039 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 21-24 (canceled)

Claim 25. (currently amended): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual, and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.

Claims 26-33 (canceled)

Claim 34. (previously presented): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity with a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 2 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 35. (currently amended): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity with a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 21-1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claims 36, 37 and 38 (canceled)

Claim 39. (previously presented). The isolated polypeptide of claim 16, wherein the individual is a human, a mouse or a rat.

Claim 40. (previously presented): The vaccine composition of claim 25, wherein said adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of Freund's complete adjuvant, Freund's incomplete adjuvant,  $AlK(SO_4)_2$ ,  $AlNa(SO_4)_2$ ,  $AlNH_4(SO_4)_2$ , silica, kaolin, carbon polynucleotides, QuilA and Alhydrogel.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The isolated polypeptide of claim 16, said polypeptide having at least a 99% identity to SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 42. (previously presented): The vaccine composition of claim 25, said polypeptide having at least a 99% identity to SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 43 (new): An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 512 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 44 (new): An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 800 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 45 (new): An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 21 to 800 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 46 (new): An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 472 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 47 (new): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 512 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 48 (new): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 800 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 49 (new): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 21 to 800 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.

Claim 50 (new): A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide having at least 95% identity to amino acids 472 to 1039 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said isolated polypeptide elicits a protective antistreptococcal immune response in an individual when administered to the individual.